

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as set forth below.

1-43 (Cancelled)

44. (New) A method comprising:

establishing a plurality of retry latencies, wherein the plurality of retry latencies includes a nominal retry latency;

initially selecting the nominal retry latency as a first retry latency to be used for transactions; and

changing the first retry latency to a different retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies responsive to latencies of N previous transactions, where N is a positive integer.

45. (New) The method as recited in claim 44 wherein the different retry latency is a minimum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies if at least a first number of the latencies of N previous transactions are latencies greater than a maximum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies.

46. (New) The method as recited in claim 45 further comprising changing the first retry latency from the minimum retry latency to the nominal retry latency responsive to at least a second number of the latencies of N previous transactions being latencies greater than the minimum retry latency and less than the nominal retry latency.

47. (New) The method as recited in claim 44 wherein the different retry latency is a maximum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies if at least a first number of the latencies of N previous transactions are latencies greater than the nominal retry latency and less than the maximum retry latency.

48. (New) The method as recited in claim 47 further comprising changing the first retry latency from the maximum retry latency to a minimum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies responsive to at least a second number of the latencies of N previous transactions being latencies greater than the maximum retry latency.

49. (New) The method as recited in claim 44 further comprising determining latencies of the N previous transactions, each latency representing a time period from a first event of a corresponding previous transaction to a second event of the corresponding previous transaction.

50. (New) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein the determining is performed by a target of the previous transactions, and wherein the first retry latency is used for transactions targeted at the target.

51. (New) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein the first event is a beginning of the corresponding previous transaction and wherein the second event is a first data transfer of the corresponding previous transaction.

52. (New) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein the first event is a previous data transfer of the corresponding previous transaction and the second event is a subsequent data transfer of the corresponding previous transaction.

53. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a buffer configured to store latencies of at least N previous transactions, wherein
N is a positive integer; and

a circuit coupled to the buffer, wherein the circuit is configured to initially select a
nominal retry latency of a plurality of retry latencies as a first retry latency
to be used for transactions, wherein the plurality of retry latencies are

established separate from the latencies in the buffer, and wherein the circuit is configured to change the first retry latency to a different retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies responsive to the latencies of N previous transactions.

54. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 53 wherein the different retry latency is a minimum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies if at least a first number of the latencies of N previous transactions are latencies greater than a maximum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies.

55. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 54 wherein the circuit is further configured to change the first retry latency from the minimum retry latency to the nominal retry latency responsive to at least a second number of the latencies of N previous transactions being latencies greater than the minimum retry latency and less than the nominal retry latency.

56. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 53 wherein the different retry latency is a maximum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies if at least a first number of the latencies of N previous transactions are latencies greater than the nominal retry latency and less than the maximum retry latency.

57. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 56 wherein the circuit is further configured to change the first retry latency from the maximum retry latency to a minimum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies responsive to at least a second number of the latencies of N previous transactions being latencies greater than the maximum retry latency.

58. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 53 wherein the circuit is further configured to determine the latencies of the N previous transactions, each latency representing a time period from a first event of a corresponding previous transaction to a second event of the corresponding previous transaction.

59. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 58 wherein the circuit is included in a target of the previous transactions, and wherein the first retry latency is used for transactions targeted at the target.

60. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 58 wherein the first event is a beginning of the corresponding previous transaction and wherein the second event is a first data transfer of the corresponding previous transaction.

61. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 58 wherein the first event is a previous data transfer of the corresponding previous transaction and the second event is a subsequent data transfer of the corresponding previous transaction.

62. (New) A carrier medium comprising a database which is operated upon by a program executable on a computer system, the program operating on the database to perform a portion of a process to fabricate an integrated circuit including circuitry described by the database, the circuitry described in the database including:

a buffer configured to store latencies of at least N previous transactions, wherein N is a positive integer; and

a circuit coupled to the buffer, wherein the circuit is configured to initially select a nominal retry latency of a plurality of retry latencies as a first retry latency to be used for transactions, wherein the plurality of retry latencies are established separate from the latencies in the buffer, and wherein the circuit is configured to change the first retry latency to a different retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies responsive to the latencies of N previous transactions.

63. (New) The carrier medium as recited in claim 62 wherein the different retry latency is a minimum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies if at least a first number of

the latencies of N previous transactions are latencies greater than a maximum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies.

64. (New) The carrier medium as recited in claim 63 wherein the circuit is further configured to change the first retry latency from the minimum retry latency to the nominal retry latency responsive to at least a second number of the latencies of N previous transactions being latencies greater than the minimum retry latency and less than the nominal retry latency.

65. (New) The carrier medium as recited in claim 62 wherein the different retry latency is a maximum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies if at least a first number of the latencies of N previous transactions are latencies greater than the nominal retry latency and less than the maximum retry latency.

66. (New) The carrier medium as recited in claim 65 wherein the circuit is further configured to change the first retry latency from the maximum retry latency to a minimum retry latency of the plurality of retry latencies responsive to at least a second number of the latencies of N previous transactions being latencies greater than the maximum retry latency.

67. (New) The carrier medium as recited in claim 62 wherein the circuit is further configured to determine the latencies of the N previous transactions, each latency representing a time period from a first event of a corresponding previous transaction to a second event of the corresponding previous transaction.

68. (New) The carrier medium as recited in claim 67 wherein the circuit is included in a target of the previous transactions, and wherein the first retry latency is used for transactions targeted at the target.

69. (New) The carrier medium as recited in claim 67 wherein the first event is a beginning of the corresponding previous transaction and wherein the second event is a

first data transfer of the corresponding previous transaction.

70. (New) The carrier medium as recited in claim 67 wherein the first event is a previous data transfer of the corresponding previous transaction and the second event is a subsequent data transfer of the corresponding previous transaction.